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522-01  
923.1004CIP

**UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Re: Application of: Taiichi MATSUO, et al.  
Serial No.: Not Yet Known  
Filed: Date Even Herewith  
For: ELECTRONIC SETTLING SYSTEM AND  
ELECTRONIC SETTLING METHOD

jc853 U.S. PTO  
09/731071  
12/06/00

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

December 6, 2000

Sir:

Pursuant to M.P.E.P. §609 and 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97-1.99, applicant herewith submits form PTO-1449 which lists references of which the applicant is aware. A copy of each of these references is submitted herewith.

Please note English-language translations of these references are not available. However, an English-language abstract of each of these references is submitted herewith. It is respectfully submitted that the relevance of these references can be readily understood by referring to the drawings and English-language abstracts provided.

I hereby certify that this correspondence and/or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to "Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231" on December 6, 2000.  
STEINBERG & RASKIN, P.C.

BY:

*Gunnelle McPherson*

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists. While the term "reference" is used in citing the publication called to the Examiner's attention herein, applicant does not make any admission that each or all of them are "prior art" references within the meaning of the statutory and case law.

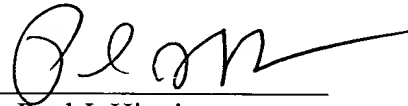
Applicant reserves the right to contend, where appropriate, that a reference asserted against any claim of the present application is not prior art under the facts and the law.

Applicant also reserves the right to present appropriate arguments and/or evidence to establish patentability over the reference, should it be applied against the claims of the present application.

It is respectfully requested that the references be considered and made of record.

Respectfully submitted,

STEINBERG & RASKIN, P.C.

By:   
Paul J. Higgins  
Reg. No. 44,152

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Encls.  
PTO-1449  
4 References

FORM PTO-1449  
(REV. 7-80)U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY. DOCKET NO.: 923.1004CIP

SERIAL NO.: Not yet known

## LIST OF PRIOR ART CITED BY APPLICANT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

APPLICANT(S): Taiichi MATSUO, et al.

FILING DATE: Concurrently herewith

GROUP: Not yet known

J0853 U.S. PTO  
09/13/07

12/06/00

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA						
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
	AL	1 0 7 8 9 9 1		Japan			Abstract	
	AM	1 0 2 9 3 7 99		Japan			Abstract	
	AN	1 1 3 3 8 7		Japan			Abstract	
	AO	1 1 9 6 2 5 2		Japan			Abstract	
	AP							

## OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	AQ	
	AR	
	AS	

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.